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Message Text

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10
ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 /075 W
---------- 097422
P R 230638Z OCT 75
FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3900
INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
AMEMBASSY SEOUL
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUWAIT 4352

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, UN, KS, KN, KU
SUBJ: KUWAITI VOTES ON KOREAN ISSUE AT UNGA

REF: KUWAIT 4277

1. ON OCTOBER 22 I MET WITH VISITING SOUTH KOREAN COMMERCE MINISTER TO LEARN RESULTS HIS CALLS ON SAME DAY WITH AMIR AND ACTING PRIME MINISTER RE KUWAITI VOTES ON KOREAN ISSUES AT UNGA. BOTH MINISTER AND LOCAL ROK TRADE COMMISSIONER SAID THEY HAD GAINED DISTINCT IMPRESSION FROM BOTH THAT GOK WILL ADHERE TO A NEUTRAL POSITION ON KOREAS AT UNGA. ROK MINISTER REMAINING IN KUWAIT IN HOPE OF SEEING FOREIGN MINISTER SABAH TO CONFIRM ABOVE IMPRESSIONS AND TO SEEK HIS AGREEMENT TO CONVEY TO GOK PERMREP BISHARA PRECISE INSTRUCTIONS FOR VOTING.

2. DESPITE ABOVE, WE REMAIN SCEPTICAL. AMBASSADOR SAW FOREIGN
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MINISTER BRIEFLY AT PARTY OCTOBER 21 FOR VISITING TUNISIAN PRIME

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MINISTER. FLEETING PERIOD ONLY PERMITTED AMBASSADOR TO SAY HE

WANTED TO MEET WITH FOREIGN MINISTER ON KOREA AND FOR LATTER TO ACKNOWLEDGE THAT HE HAD RECEIVED AND READ SECRETARY'S LETTER TO HIM ON SUBJECT. (REFTEL) ALONG WITH ROK COMMERCE MINISTER, I AM TO PRESS FOR APPOINTMENT WHICH, HOPEFULLY, WILL CONFIRM THAT SECRETARY KISSINGER'S LETTER AND OTHER EFFORTS ARE MOVING GOK AWAY FROM CONTINUED SUPPORT OF ALGERIA AND EGYPTIAN POSITIONS ON ISSUE. (DIRECTOR UN AFFAIRS AT FOREIGN MINISTRY COMMENTED PERSONALLY TO DCM OCTOBER 20 THAT SECRETARY'S LETTER "CREATING MAJOR PROBLEMS" WITHIN MINISTRY.)

3. SOUTH KOREAN MINISTER'S CALL ON AMIR WAS FRONT-PAGE NEWS, WITH PICTURES IN LOCAL PRESS OCTOBER 23.

4. MINISTER TOLD ME HE GREATLY IMPRESSED WITH INTENSE ACTIVITIES BY USG IN ALL COUNTRIES HE HAD VISITED DURING CURRENT TRIP IN SUPPORT SOUTH KOREA. HE SAID HE REPORTING THESE EFFORTS, FOR WHICH ROK GRATEFUL, TO SEOUL.
STOLTZFUS

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